

## Story hour starts

Army Community Services Outreach Program will begin offering Story Hour/Tot Time in September. Contact ACS for more information and story times.

## Spouses club

The International Spouses Club meets in the ACS lounge from 10 a.m. to noon the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

## School lunches

ACS is accepting applications for the Free and Reduced Price School Lunch Program. If you need assistance completing the application, please call mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188. Persons who have questions regarding the regulation governing eligibility may call the 222nd Base support Battalion schools officer, Gene Winfree, at mil 485-1770 or civ (06783) 6-1770. Applications are available at ACS, Community Youth Services central registration and Baumholder Health Clinic.

## AFTB training

The next Army Family Team Building Level I training will be Sept. 12. Level II is offered Sept. 4-5. All training will be in the AFTB classroom. For reservations or for information to set up training for your unit or family readiness group, call the AFTB office at mil 485-8542/8188. To receive free child care during training, parents need to register for classes two weeks in advance.

## Foster care

The Army Community Foster Care Program is looking for foster care families. A foster care program is designed to provide a needy child with a temporary home in which she or he can find love, happiness and protection. Foster parents are people who know that parenting is not easy. They are familiar with the stresses of raising a family and are ready to help out in a crisis. They are willing to extend the love they share with others. Foster parents are very special people. All interested families should contact the foster care coordinator at mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188.

## Get with it NOW

BaumholderNOW-Newcomer's

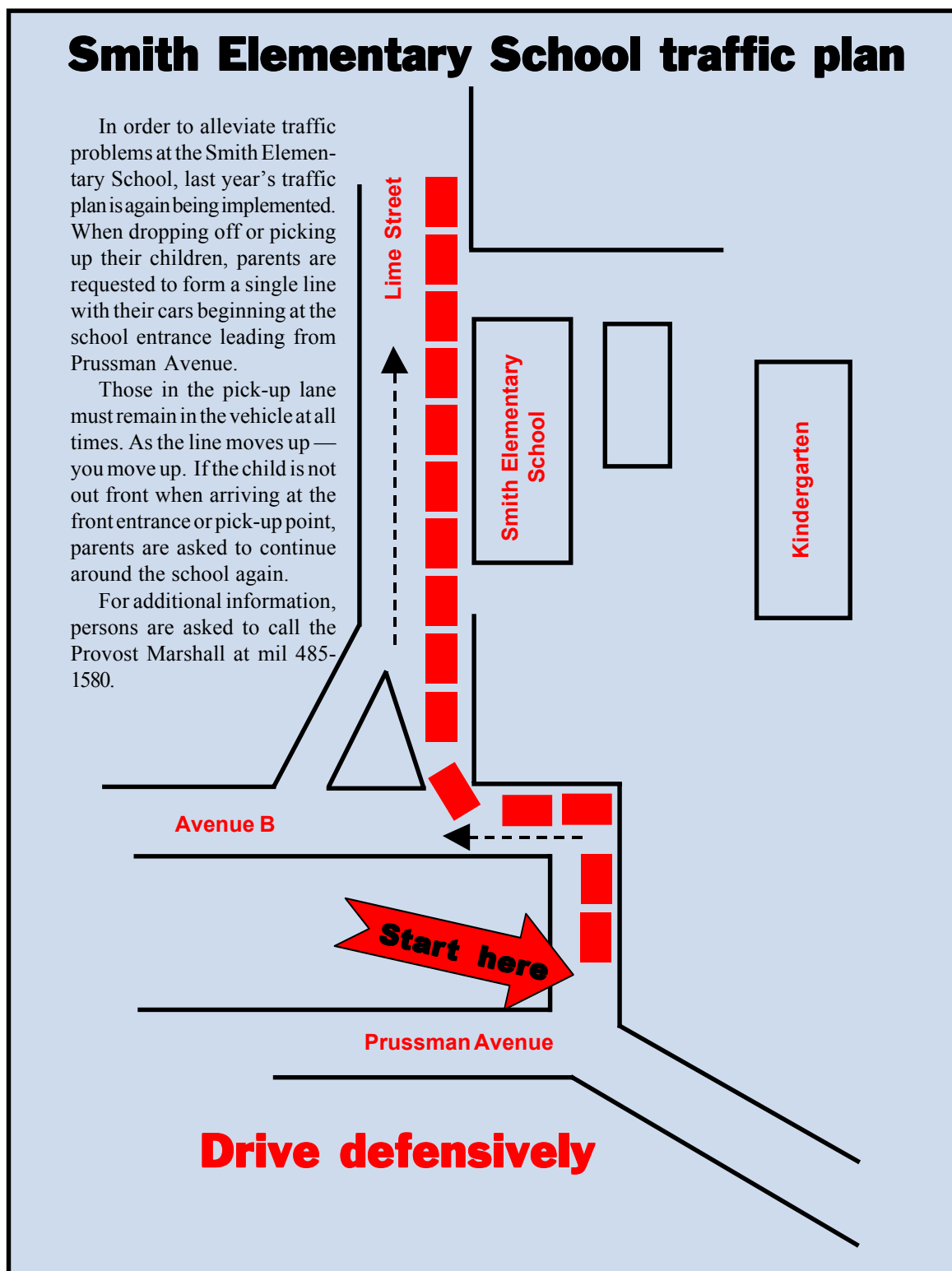
# Post notes

## Smith Elementary School traffic plan

In order to alleviate traffic problems at the Smith Elementary School, last year's traffic plan is again being implemented. When dropping off or picking up their children, parents are requested to form a single line with their cars beginning at the school entrance leading from Prussman Avenue.

Those in the pick-up lane must remain in the vehicle at all times. As the line moves up — you move up. If the child is not out front when arriving at the front entrance or pick-up point, parents are asked to continue around the school again.

For additional information, persons are asked to call the Provost Marshall at mil 485-1580.



Orientation and Welcome is a program for spouses in the Baumholder military community. This is a three-day orientation designed to welcome and inform spouses of military members and civilian employees to Baumholder by providing relevant information and developing skills for living in this unique environment. Spouses will learn

about Germany and the local community through briefings on customs and a survival German language and cultural adaptation class. Spouses, new to the military or not, will also have an opportunity to attend an introductory class to the Army life-style. Field trips on the economy will provide them with practical skills in using German public transportation and local shopping. Free transportation and child care is available for all registered participants during the orientation. All participants must register with ACS, to learn more about this program stop by ACS in Building 8746 or call mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188.

## Sole parents

Army Community Service has a new service targeted at single work-

ing parents. The Sole Parent Support Service is designed to introduce single parents to one another and increasing the understanding and appreciation of oneself as well as one's children, by exploring and discussing the advantages and disadvantages of being a single parent. Call ACS at mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188 for more information on these services.

## ACS calendar

**Sept. 4** - Stress and Time Management Skills, International Spouses Club

**Sept. 5** - Conflict Resolution Skills - Banking and Checking Accounts

**Sept. 6** - Love and Logic Parenting

**Sept. 10** - Assertiveness Training, Baumholder NOW

**Sept. 11** - Anger Management and Coping Skills, Baumholder NOW

**Sept. 12** - Building Positive Self Esteem, Baumholder NOW, Fixing Financial Problems, AFTB Level I Training

**Sept. 13** - Challenges of Blended Families

**Sept. 17** - Successful Parenting

**Sept. 18** - Stress and Time Management Skills

**Sept. 19** - Conflict Resolutions Skills, Shopping Safely On line

**Sept. 20** - Love and Logic Parenting

For information about classes listed or services provided call mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188.

## GI Bill changes

Public Law 107-14 recently approved by the Congress addresses the use of the Top-Up provision for those who use the Montgomery GI Bill. Changes presented by this law will affect the Montgomery GI Bill entitlement so soldiers should talk to an education counselor if they have used the Top-Up provision already. Call the education center at mil 485-6487 for more information.

The Automotive Service Exams will be offered at Baumholder Nov. 13-15. Exams must be requested at the Baumholder Army Education Center before Sept. 5. Call Bill Badger at mil 485-6487 for more details.

## VEAP and GI Bill

Active duty members with VEAP education benefits may be eligible to convert to the more lucrative Montgomery GI Bill Program. Visit the Baumholder Army Education Center today to see if you qualify. It is not necessary to have money in your VEAP account to convert. Call Bill Badger at mil 485-6487 for more information.

## Open house

The Army Learning Center, Building 8108, is now open Mondays through Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. Friday hours remain 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Center is closed daily from 1 - 2 p.m. for lunch. Visit the Learning Center for CLEP, GED, SAT, ACT, AFCT, and MOS study material. You will also find an on-line bookshelf with the latest Army regulations and pamphlets. Call Lonnie Allen at mil 485-6484 for more information.

## Field rep

The University of Oklahoma field representative from Ramstein Air Base will visit the Baumholder Army Education Center on Sept. 5 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. People who want to discuss Oklahoma's graduate degree programs are invited to meet with the university's representative. The representative may be reached daily at mil 480-6807.

# Avoid becoming a victim of identity theft

By Pamela Cater  
Baumholder Legal Assistance  
Office

Just the term identity theft is frightening enough to get almost anyone's attention. The fact that it is on the rise and military members are often targets, makes it even more alarming.

The growth of identity theft, the crime of wrongfully obtaining and using another person's personal data for economic gain, has grown with the development of the Internet. Military members are easy prey because their social security numbers and other personal information can often be obtained through the Internet. According to a recent publication, one investigation alone revealed four individuals had applied for and obtained hundreds of credit cards using the

names of 175 top U.S. military officers.

There are a number of ways, however, to reduce the risk of becoming one of these victims:

- Use only one credit card—not a bank debit card—on line, to make it easier to find any fraudulent charges. (Using a debit card on line could allow a thief to wipe out your whole account.)

- Before buying on line, make sure the web site you are using is legitimate and has transaction security.

- Print a copy of your on line order when you make a purchase.

- Do not post personal information on bulletin boards or Internet sites.

- Come up with hard-to-crack passwords for your credit card and ATM card.

- Do not give out personal information on the phone, through the mail, or over the Internet to someone who contacts you, unless you are very sure with whom you are dealing.

- If your credit card bills do not arrive on time, it could mean someone has changed the billing address to cover the fact that they are wrongfully using your credit card. Call customer service if your credit card bills are late.

- Check each item on your credit card bill each month to make sure no one else is charging items on your credit card. If you find anything you do not recognize, call customer service immediately to report false or fraudulent charges on your credit card and cancel the credit card.

- Only give your social security number and other important identi-

fication numbers to people you trust.

- When paying by credit card in a store, keep the card in sight and make sure you can see it being swiped through the machine.

- Don't leave credit cards, ATM cards, checkbooks and similar personal information in plain view, where roommates, repairmen, or others can find them.

- Use a shredder to destroy charge receipts, copies of credit applications, insurance forms and other documents that may contain important information about you

- Don't carry your social security card. Put it in a safe place, instead.

- Once a year, buy a copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit-reporting agencies and check them for errors. If the reports reveal transactions you are

unaware of, someone may have stolen your credit identity. Although these reports may cost you as much as \$8.50 each, it will be money well invested if it prevents someone from making you the victim of identity theft. For a copy of your credit report, contact:

Equifax — [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
800-685-1111

Experian — [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
8 8 8 - 3 9 7 - 3 7 4 2  
Trans Union — [www.tuc.com](http://www.tuc.com)  
800-916-8800

If you believe you are a victim of identity theft or have other questions, contact the Legal Assistance Office of the Baumholder Legal Center at mil 485-6506 or civ (06783) 6-6506.

A legal assistance attorney can provide further help in these matters.

## High value inventory - what does it mean to you?

High value inventories are now commonly used by many household goods carriers to specifically identify your expensive personal property. This is permissible. The Hi-Val inventory is in addition to the normal inventory which reflects all the property you tender to the carrier for shipment. It is important that you understand your responsibilities in the preparation of this

document and, in the event of missing property, the settlement of your claim.

Statistics indicate that the use of Hi-Val inventories have contributed to a reduction in claims for theft. Therefore, if you intend to ship property that is expensive and is a likely target for theft, then you should ensure that the carrier lists these items on the Hi-Val inven-

tory. For audio and video equipment the model number and serial number of the item must be listed. If you ship a large collection of compact disks, ensure that the number is counted and entered on the Hi-Val inventory.

At delivery, you may be requested to verify the delivery of these items by signing this separate inventory. Before you sign

such an inventory, open every carton to visually verify receipt of these items. If you sign the Hi-Val inventory at delivery without taking exceptions for any missing items, you have acknowledged that you have received these items.

Failure to take an exception at the time of delivery could preclude a later claim for such an item if you later find it is missing. Some carriers

may request that you open these cartons even if you waive unpacking by the carrier. Please cooperate with this request. It is in your best interest.

If you have any questions pertaining to claim policies, contact claims personnel at the Baumholder Law Center, Building 8222 on Smith Barracks, or call mil 485-6507 or civ (06783) 6-6507.

### Healthy Days

Baumholder Healthy Days will be held in front of the Baumholder exchange from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 7.

The theme this month is Five-a-Day Fruits and Vegetables. Stop by for a free blood pressure check.

### Breast feeding

Baumholder's La Leche League meets Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to noon at the New Parent Support conference room, Building 8746, \* directly below ACS and at the end of hall from the WIC entrance. All meetings are free and open to the public. For more meeting information or assistance with breast feeding, contact Brenda Moss at civ (06381) 996645.



### Nike camp

Eleven students from Baumholder attended a three-day Nike Athletic/Leadership Camp at the University of Maryland Mannheim Campus recently. The co-ed camp was intended to foster

skills and leadership development for 11 to 13-year-olds that have contributed 25 hours or more of volunteer community service.

Activities at the camp included guest speakers, leadership exercises, and sports competitions in a college campus environment. The Boys and Girls Clubs of America sponsored the camp through Child Youth Services.

### Social Services

Social Work Services has moved and is now located on the first floor of the Baumholder Clinic, Building 8742. For more information, call Social Work Services at mil 485-7411/6583.

### Traveling fun

Mobile recreation programs for youth ages 6 to 10 began in the Strassburg and Neubrück communities recently.

Visits to Strassburg will be on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and Neubrück on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This program provides activities for the middle-school-age children until school begins.

### Fire damage

Fire damaged an entire apartment in Wetzel housing recently and also caused smoke damage to the apartment above and the staircase. According to an investiga-

tion conducted by officials from the 222nd Base Support Battalion fire department, the fire was allegedly started by a four-year-old boy playing with a cigarette lighter.

Upon arrival at the scene, Baumholder firemen responding to

the alarm observed black smoke rolling out of a window so the crew chief decided to alert the volunteer fire brigade from the city of Baumholder for mutual aid. Together, the two crews quickly extinguished the fire.

No one was injured during the fire but officials estimate damage to government property at about \$100,000. Private property damage is estimated at \$15,000.

## News briefs



## Baumholder is community of excellence

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

Baumholder and the 222nd Base Support battalion were recently honored for winning third place in the USAREUR fiscal year 2001 Army Community of Excellence competition. Lt. Gen. Larry R. Jordan, deputy commander, USAREUR, presented the award to Lt. Col. Eric Wagenaar, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander. Jordan said he was presenting Wagenaar the award "But that's only symbolic because the truth is the team effort that's represented by all of you, and the organizations that you belong to, have made it possible."

He added that he came to Baumholder "To reinforce the fact that the USAREUR leadership really focuses on and appreciates the work that is done here to support families and soldiers." Baumholder has some of the highest operational tempo in the U.S. Army today, he explained.

The Army has deployed soldiers to places like Kosovo, Bosnia, Poland and Hungary and "Who would have thought we'd have soldiers deployed to sub Saharan Africa, or for that matter to Macedonia, Bosnia and those places? But the thing that allows our units and our soldiers to do that, and our families to sustain themselves while their soldiers are deployed really stems from organizations like the 222nd Base Support Battalion," said Jordan. Units like

the 222nd BSB provide support for all aspects of a deployment, from departure to the reintegration of units when they come back. "Now each person here, and certainly many who couldn't attend today were responsible for that, they contributed to this award," said Jordan.

"There are some special things that the 222nd has accomplished

and I think the most outstanding has to do with this competition," said Jordan. The 222nd showed significant improvement in six of the seven areas that are looked at during the competition. "Six of the seven, now that's just simply outstanding. At most, I usually see where a base support battalion has improved in one, two, or three of the

seven areas but in this case you showed substantial improvement in six of the seven."

The seven areas reviewed include leadership, Strategic Planning, Customer Focus, Information and Analysis, Human Resource Focus, Process Management, and Business Results.

"I'd also like to recognize, by

name, some individuals who really contributed to the award. I'm specifically talking about the APIC and ACOE quality improvement team. The team leader was Sean Lambur, and I'd also like to recognize the team members because we know leaders are part of it but really it's the team members that do all the work," said Jordan, invoking laughter from the audience. "Sandy Benevidas, Norman Estrada, Steve Meyers, and Denise Turnipseed, all of them were outstanding members of the team that helped to do this, because they didn't do it by themselves, just as the commander didn't, it was a team effort," said Jordan.

Baumholder also had two members from the BSB that were USAREUR judges for the ACOE competition who had a chance to go around and see, compare and evaluate all the communities. "That's a beneficial thing. Those two were Bill Kalavski and Susan Mitchel," said Jordan.

"Again let me congratulate everyone here and the BSB in particular for winning this award and I want to wish you continued success," said Jordan.

"Finally let me thank each and everyone of you for what you do. Thank you for what you do cheerfully and willingly each and every day to support this community and the many soldiers and civilian employees and family members that live and work here. Thank you for being good neighbors to our German hosts. Without that effort we certainly couldn't stay here and train and be ready."



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Lt. Gen. Larry R. Jordan, deputy commander, USAREUR, addresses members of Baumholder's Army Performance Improvement Criteria team.

## Uncle Sam is there to serve customers

The Baumholder Service Supplies Office has established the Uncle Sam's Customer Service Center to better serve its clients and to provide a better and easier way for customers to have access to the many different ways of acquiring the type of service that they may need.

Many new and interesting ways for customers to receive the best possible prices and delivery service within the European theater

have been established. The concept is to create a service that would allow every customer to have access to a better way of doing business with GSA and the local vendors.

Operating in a more efficient and productive manner will be one of the priorities of Uncle Sam's Customer Service Center.

Types of services that are coming to the community include:

- Special ordering for those hard

to acquire products, for example; printer ribbons, cartridges, toner, furniture, computer needs and office supplies.

- IMPAC card purchases through GSA Advantage.

- The utilization of our Local Purchase/Customer service Representative to find you the cheapest and fastest way to receive your merchandise.

- Delivery service for bulk items
- Temporary storage for items

that have been received from state-side.

- Direct Internet service for GSA orders with customer service assistance.

- Direct call-in for customer information, concerns or problems.

- Appointments for special ordering and problem solving.

Direct call-in service for customer information, concerns and problems will be available Sept. 4. Ruth Graf, the Service Support Of-

fice local purchase agent and customer service representative, will be taking calls for concerns, appointments and special orders.

Customers should allow 72 hours for assistance with any major concerns they may have. Graf may be reached at mil 485-7209/7224 or civ (06783) 6-7209/7224

Computer access to GSA Advantage with assistance for ordering with your IMPAC card will also be available Sept. 4.



## Fire fighters get high tech helmet



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Hans Kuhn, Baumholder fire chief, demonstrates the use of the fire department's new infrared, heat sensing camera mounted on a firefighter's helmet to Col. George A. Latham, 104th Area Support Group commander.

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava  
222nd Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Fire fighting can be a dangerous occupation so it goes without saying that fire fighters rely extensively on their equipment for both survival and getting the job done. Naturally, they develop a special bond with the equipment that may some day help save their lives while attempting to save others.

Baumholder's fire fighting crew are no exception to this special bond between man and machine.

They recently went into a state of euphoria over the latest addition to their fire fighting equipment inventory when they were presented a unique helmet equipped with a DM 60,000 infrared camera that enables the user to spot temperature differences in a smoke filled room. What this means is they can spot objects that emit heat, like people or animals, in a smoke filled

room, for example. The camera senses temperature differences of 0.2 degrees Celsius.

This high speed technical piece of equipment was presented to the Baumholder fire fighters and their Chief, Hans Kuhn, by Helmut Aulgur and Scott Freeman from USAREUR fire and emergency services. "We are all very proud of this recognition," said Kuhn.

USAREUR fire department officials honored Baumholder fire fighters with this award because they achieved a score of 96 percent during a recent eight-day inspection. Their performance during this inspection makes them one of the best-rated fire departments in USAREUR.

Because this is the first such piece of equipment in the area, other emergency response organizations, civilian or military, may request assistance and the use of this camera if necessary.

## Youth Services goes white water rafting

By Steven Ferguson  
Baumholder Youth Services Program Manager

Hold on tight and away we go. The Baumholder Youth Services recently sponsored a Camping and White Water Rafting trip to Garmisch, Germany and Haiming, Austria.

Departing the Underground Teen Center Aug. 17, 12 teens and three staff members started their adventures journey. They arrived in Garmisch and camped for two nights.

Each of the youth set up their own tent and sat down to a barbecue dinner. The next morning it was off to Haiming Austria where they met up with their rafting guides. They changed into their wet suits and after a 30-minute bus ride and a safety brief they were in the water. White water rafting is a learn by doing program.

As they floated down the river they were given instructions, information and commands to remember.

"Forward paddle, backwards paddle, hard forward and hard backwards" were loudly commanded by the guide, depending on what the river was doing. Half way down another command was given, "Get down and recover." When the command of "get down" was issued it meant just that. Get down and hold on. The trip down the river with all its bends twists and rapids lasted about an hour and a half.

When they returned to their campsite, everyone was talking about the experience. Another night of camping in Garmisch and then the return to Baumholder.

If this is the kind of fun and excitement that's in your blood, Youth Services is going to plan more trips like this in the future.

Youth Services is working closely with all the youth services agencies on Baumholder to ensure everyone gets an opportunity to participate.



Photo courtesy of the Feel Free Company

Baumholder youth enjoy a rough and tumble ride in Austria's white water paradise.

## Red Cross corner

### Workplace training

The American Red Cross is now offering Workplace Training Injury Control Modules including: Ergonomics; Workplace Violence Awareness; Back Injury Prevention; Managing Stress, Slips; Trips and Falls; Your Heart Matters. Each class is approximately one hour.

Call the Baumholder Red Cross at mil 485-1760 or civ (06783) 6-1760 for more information or to register for a class.

### Instructor course

The Baumholder American Red Cross is looking for anyone interested in becoming a First Aid/CPR/AED instructor. Training includes

new Workplace Training Injury Control Modules.

### Red Cross calendar

Sept. 4 - Volunteer Orientation  
Sept. 8 - First Aid/CPR/AED  
Sept. 14, 15 - Babysitting  
Sept. 18 - Volunteer Orientation  
Sept. 28, 29 - Healthy Pregnancy, Healthy Baby

## Youth Services roundup

Youth Services offers the following trips and activities:

Sept. 7 - dining out, Italian, order off the menu, leave the Underground at 6 p.m.

Sept. 13 - go-carting in Kirn, cost is \$15, leave the Underground at 4 p.m.

Sept. 15 - trip to Holiday Park, cost is \$20, leave the Underground 8 a.m.

Sept. 21 - midnight basketball at

the Hall of Champions, from 8 p.m. to midnight, no cost

Sept. 22 - kayaking/Canoeing on the Mosel, cost is \$29, leave the Underground at 8 a.m.

Sept. 29 - Middle School lock-in at Neubrück Youth Services from 7 p.m. to 8 a.m., cost is \$10

More events are offered at each individual youth center. For more information contact your local youth center.